

REMARKS

Claims 2-24 are pending. The independent claims are claims 2, 10-15, 19, 23, and 24. However, a new independent claim 25 and dependent claim 26 are now added, and independent claims 11, 13, 15, 19, 23, and 24 are now cancelled.

The claims stand rejected as obvious from *Teresawa* (U.S. Patent No. 6,147,714) in view of Admitted Prior Art (APA at page 6, lines 1-10 of the application), and *Eyer* (U.S. Patent No. 5,982,445).

Claim 2 is now amended, and new claim 26 is added, to further describe the way a user retrieves the relation between a service's name information and its identification data. This is fully supported by the application as originally filed, and no new matter has been introduced. The second full paragraph on page 15 describes an embodiment shown in FIG. 7, where a set-top-box (STB) accesses the relation from a separate data system. However, no separate data system needs to be accessed according to FIG. 2(a), and that embodiment is now claimed by present claim 2.

Admitted Prior Art

Applicant wishes to respectfully clarify that Applicant never wished to admit that APA on page 6 would teach "that it is desirable to represent the address of video program in a textual non-numeric, on a transport stream, which is itself located with respect to its network ID" as the examiner has concluded in the Office Action on page 3. The applicant unambiguously intended to identify an example of an object of the invention by the above, and accordingly it was never admitted or intended to represent the knowledge of the prior art. The applicant totally denies that he tried or intended to give such a description of the prior art. Therefore, the passage of page 6 identified above does not in any way represent the knowledge of the person skilled in the art.

Claims 10-15

Independent claims 11, 13, and 15 are now cancelled without prejudice. They respectively claimed a system, broadcasting device, and receiver. Independent claims 10, 12, and 14 already claim a system, broadcasting device, and receiver in a somewhat different way, and therefore canceling claims 11, 13, and 15 will substantially focus the application upon the most novel aspects of the invention.

Claims 10, 12, and 14 are now amended in order to more particularly point out and claim the present invention, by including material similar to the last “wherein” clauses of new claim 25, discussed below. Note that these “wherein” clauses introduce the service “components” into claims 10, 12, and 14 (those “components” were already introduced into cancelled claims 11, 13, and 15).

These claims 10, 12, and 14 now cover both the case where there are really two services with the same name information in the same transmission network, as well as the case where the identification data changes on the boundary of two (parts of) transmission networks, each transmission network carrying the same service but with different identification data. The latter is a more typical case.

New Claim 25

As discussed at page 6 of the application as originally filed (lines 11-22), a principle problem of the prior art is that data recipients will find it difficult to cope with a situation in which data undergoes a change-of-address. The address may change, for example, due to a reconfigured network path, but may also change for other reasons. New claim 25 addresses this change-of-address feature.

Consider this analogy. Suppose a particular Associated Press news story is available via www.news.google.com from a variety of different URLs (corresponding to a variety of different newspapers). However, that set of URLs changes over time because some newspapers may only offer free news for up to 24 hours, whereas other newspapers may only offer free news after 48 hours. For the user, it is desirable to be able to simply memorize or

bookmark an identifying name for the particular Associated Press story, and then simply enter that identifying name to obtain the story from whatever newspaper URL can provide it via www.news.google.com. The service will be slightly different depending upon which online newspaper is used, because the AP article will be accompanied by different advertisements and different links.

Likewise, let us consider MPEG data transmission. With an increasing number of companies worldwide providing digital video content, a particular service (e.g. a movie) may be received via a customer's cable connection or satellite dish, but originating from a set of multiple and possibly redundant sources that change over time. For example, suppose a customer pays for digital TV service, and the customer wants to watch the CBS Evening News of April 1, 2004. The customer's cable or satellite provider makes that news program available via different sources at different times (i.e. via different local CBS affiliates), and yet the customer does not care what source is used as long as the customer can watch this particular news program. The customer does not care if the desired data comes from program service provider A, B, C, D, or E and does not care if it comes from broadcasting station 12a or 12b (see FIG. 2a of present application).

So, according to the present invention, the customer will be able to simply enter something like "CBS: News: April 4, 2004" and thereby obtain the desired content if it is available from an otherwise arbitrary resource having an arbitrary location. The only difference in the content might be that the commercials would be different, depending upon what local CBS affiliate feeds this program. As discussed at page 7 of the application, lines 26-28, this makes it possible to make direct references from one service to other services, all of which provide a particular packet of service components (see page 1, lines 10-12).

Up until now, the independent claims of the present application have not explicitly said anything about a change of address, and yet this is one of the essential situations where the present invention improves upon the prior art, as explained at page 6, lines 11-22 of the application. Applicant now adds a new independent claim 25, the first part of which is exactly the same as claim 1 in Applicant's response of January 30, 2002 except that two additional

“wherein” clauses are added at the end of the claim. These new limitations introduce no new matter and are fully supported by the specification (e.g. see page 1, line 10; page 6, lines 11-15; page 7, lines 26-28).

Independent Claims 19, 23, and 24

Independent claims 19, 23, and 24 are now cancelled without prejudice, in order to focus the application on the most novel features of the present invention, and thereby expedite allowance.

Further Remarks Regarding Independent Claim 2

Even without amending independent claim 2, Applicant respectfully submits that it does present novel and useful material. The non-final Office Action acknowledges (page 3, second paragraph) that *Eyer* does not disclose the present claimed transmission algorithm. Indeed, the service of *Eyer* is not a *broadcast* stream-based service, as in the present claimed invention. However, the non-final Office Action asserts (page 3, second paragraph) that both *Terasawa* and APA involve broadcast programs.

The combination of *Terasawa* with *Eyer* does not suggest a reasonable expectation of success, and neither of these references provide adequate motivation for the combination. These references are actually inconsistent and incomplete: *Terasawa* fails to disclose a registration process ensuring the worldwide uniqueness for the service; and, *Eyer* does not associate a URL for the broadcast data stream based service but instead focuses on an internet web site server.

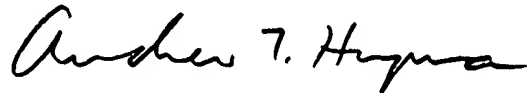
There is nothing in *Terasawa* or *Eyer* or the APA to adequately suggest, teach, or motivate a combination of these three references. Even if there were, the resulting combination would be deficient, as previously explained.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that the amended claims of the present application define patentable subject matter and are patentably distinguishable over the cited references for the reasons explained. The rejections of the non-final Official Action having been shown to be inapplicable, retraction thereof is requested, and early passage of the pending claims to issue is earnestly solicited.

Applicants would appreciate if the Examiner would please contact Applicants' attorney by telephone, if that might help to speedily dispose of any unresolved issues pertaining to the present application.

Respectfully submitted,



Andrew T. Hyman
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 45,858

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WARE, FRESSOLA, VAN DER
SLUYS & ADOLPHSON LLP
Building Five, Bradford Green
755 Main Street, P.O. Box 224
Monroe, CT 06468
Telephone: (203) 261-1234
Facsimile: (203) 261-5676
USPTO Customer No. 004955